

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3438

To increase the employment, job retention, and earnings of former TANF recipients.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2017

Mrs. NOEM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To increase the employment, job retention, and earnings of former TANF recipients.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Employ-
5 ment Outcomes of TANF Recipients Act”.

6 SEC. 2. IMPROVING ECONOMIC MOBILITY OF TANF RECIPI-

7 ENTS.

8 Section 403(a)(4) of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C. 603(a)(4)) is amended to read as follows:

1 “(4) IMPROVING ECONOMIC MOBILITY OF TANF
2 RECIPIENTS.—

3 “(A) MEASURING STATE PERFORMANCE.—

4 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each State, in
5 consultation with the Secretary, shall col-
6 lect and report information necessary to
7 measure the level of performance of the
8 State for each indicator described in clause
9 (ii), for fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal
10 year thereafter, and the Secretary shall use
11 the information collected for fiscal year
12 2019 to establish the baseline level of per-
13 formance of each State for each such indi-
14 cator.

15 “(ii) INDICATORS.—The indicators de-
16 scribed in this clause, for a fiscal year, are
17 the following:

18 “(I) The employment percentage
19 for the fiscal year, which is equal to—

20 “(aa) the number of families
21 receiving assistance under the
22 State program funded under this
23 part or any other State program
24 funded with qualified State ex-
25 penditures (as defined in section

1 409(a)(7)(B)(ii)) who, during a
2 quarter in the fiscal year, exited
3 from the program, and who, dur-
4 ing the 2nd quarter after the
5 exit, include an adult in unsub-
6 sidized employment; divided by

7 “(bb) the number of families
8 who received assistance from the
9 program in the exit quarter re-
10 ferred to in subclause (aa).

11 “(II) The retention percentage
12 for the fiscal year, which is equal to—

13 “(aa) the number of families
14 receiving assistance from the
15 State program funded under this
16 part or any other State program
17 funded with qualified State ex-
18 penditures (as defined in section
19 409(a)(7)(B)(ii)) who, during a
20 quarter in the fiscal year, exited
21 from the program, and who, dur-
22 ing the 4th quarter after the exit,
23 include an adult in unsubsidized
24 employment; divided by

“(III) The advancement measure for the fiscal year, which is equal to the median earnings of the adults receiving assistance under the State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(ii)) who, during a quarter in the fiscal year, exited from the program, and who during the 2nd quarter after the exit, are in unsubsidized employment.

17 “(iii) AGREEMENT ON REQUISITE
18 PERFORMANCE LEVEL FOR EACH INDIVI-
19 CATOR.—

1 In establishing the requisite levels of
2 performance, the State and the Sec-
3 retary shall—

4 “(aa) take into account how
5 the levels involved compare with
6 the levels established for other
7 States;

8 “(bb) ensure the levels in-
9 volved are adjusted, using the ob-
10 jective statistical model referred
11 to in clause (v), based on—

12 “(AA) the differences
13 among States in actual eco-
14 nomic conditions, including
15 differences in unemployment
16 rates and job losses or gains
17 in particular industries; and

18 “(BB) the characteris-
19 ties of participants on entry
20 into the program, including
21 indicators of prior work his-
22 tory, lack of educational or
23 occupational skills attain-
24 ment, or other factors that

1 may affect employment and
2 earnings; and

3 “(cc) take into account the
4 extent to which the levels in-
5 volved promote continuous im-
6 provement in performance by
7 each State.

8 “(II) FISCAL YEAR 2022.—The
9 State shall reach agreement with the
10 Secretary, before fiscal year 2022, on
11 the requisite level of performance for
12 each indicator described in clause (ii),
13 for fiscal year 2022, which shall be es-
14 tablished in accordance with subclause
15 (I) of this clause.

16 “(iv) REVISIONS BASED ON ECONOMIC
17 CONDITIONS AND INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING
18 ASSISTANCE DURING THE FISCAL YEAR.—
19 The Secretary shall, in accordance with the
20 objective statistical model referred to in
21 clause (v), revise the requisite levels of per-
22 formance for a fiscal year and a State to
23 reflect the actual economic conditions and
24 characteristics of participants during that
25 fiscal year in the State.

1 “(v) STATISTICAL ADJUSTMENT
2 MODEL.—The Secretary shall use an objec-
3 tive statistical model to make adjustments
4 to the requisite levels of performance for
5 actual economic conditions and characteris-
6 tics of participants, and shall consult with
7 the Secretary of Labor to develop a model
8 that is the same as or similar to the model
9 described in section 116(b)(3)(viii) of the
10 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
11 (29 U.S.C. 3141).

12 “(B) REPORT ON STATE PERFORMANCE.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than Oc-
14 tober 1, 2018, the Secretary shall develop
15 a template which each State shall use to
16 report on outcomes achieved under the
17 State program funded under this part or
18 any other State program funded with
19 qualified State expenditures (as defined in
20 section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)).

21 “(ii) CONTENTS.—Each such report
22 shall include—

23 “(I) the number of individuals
24 who exited the program during the
25 year, and their reasons for doing so,

1 including a separate accounting of the
2 number of work-eligible individuals
3 (as so defined) who exited the pro-
4 gram during the year and their rea-
5 sons for doing so;

6 “(II) the characteristics of the
7 individuals who exited the program
8 during the year, including information
9 on the length of time the individual
10 received assistance under the pro-
11 gram, the educational level of the in-
12 dividual, and the earnings of the indi-
13 vidual in the 4 quarters preceding the
14 exit; and

15 “(III) information specifying the
16 levels of performance achieved on each
17 indicator described in subparagraph
18 (A)(ii).

1 “(C) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary, in
2 consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall
3 prescribe such regulations as may be necessary
4 to provide for the measurement of State per-
5 formance on the indicators described in this
6 paragraph.”.

7 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

8 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
9 on October 1, 2017.

